Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)* : I may just read out a passage from the report of the food experts of the Government of India in this connection. "In some areas the fear has been expressed that the post-war use of such storage is uncertain and that therefore the policy of a proper construction programme is open to doubt. The recent response of private individuals to official offers to provide controlled materials at standard prices to godowns erected for the use of Governments shows this attitude to be entirely wrong. So long as the population of India continues to increase at the rate of 5 millons per annum there is little fear of superfluous accommodation being constructed for foodgrains. It is hoped that this development will not result in a policy of "let it to the trader" in provinces and states. This could be most unfortunate for it is both desirable and necessary that the Goverements concerned would lead the way and demonstrate what can be done. That a proportion of the local storage would be in Government hands for the present at least has obvious advantages".

Mr. K. T. Achuthan *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram)*: What will be the storage accommodation there?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: It will be about 93,000 bags, about a month's supply to State.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ടി. ജേക്കബ്ബ്: മട്ടാഞ്ചേരിയിൽ ഈ വിധത്തിൽ പരിഷ്കരിക്കുവാൻ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ട് നിർബന്ധിക്കുമോ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Government are advising owners of godowns to make them rat-proof and sanitary.

Mr. M. O. Thomakutty *(Commerce and Industry)*: May I know whether the Government are able to advance funds to the people for the construction of such rat-proof godowns?

Mr. President: I do not think that Government have received any such request.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know, Sir, whether advice is being given to construct rat proof godowns?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know, Sir, whether any particular individual has acted upon the advice?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: In many cases people have modified their existing godowns so as to make them rat-proof.

ചൌധരി ജി. എസ്സ്. ധാരാസിംഗ്: ഇതു് Central Government ന്റെ നിർബ്ബന്ധപ്രകാരമാണോ പണിയുന്നതു്?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: They have been advised regarding the mode of construction, specification, and so on.

ചൌധരി ജി. എസ്സ്. ധാരാസിംഗ്: ഇതു മഹാരാജാസ് ഹോസ്പിറ്റലിനോട് തൊട്ടു പണിയുവാനായിട്ടു് സർക്കാരിനെ ആരാണപദേശിച്ചതു്?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: The site of the godown was pointed out by the Food Department. They selected a few sites of which this was the best.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know, Sir, where our present stock of foodgrains is kept?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: In rented godowns.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Necessarily not in rat-proof godowns?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: Not all of them.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ടി. ജേക്കബ്ബ്: ഈ സ്ഥലം തിരഞ്ഞെടുത്തപ്പോൾ പബ്ലിക് ഹെൽത്ത് ഡയറക്ടരോട് ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer)*: I think he was consulted. I think he has approved the site.

PADDY PURCHASED IN EACH MONTH

145. Mr. M. O. Thomakutty *(Commerce and Industry)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) how many paras of paddy have been purchased by Government in each month in the current year;

(*b*) what is the special reason for selling mainly raw rice in most of the ration shops in the months of Edavam and Mithunam;

(*c*) did not Government receive complaints even last year also against the sale of raw rice during these months?

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Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) See list appended. *(Appendix I).*

(*b*) The rice available from local purchase is sufficient only for about four and a half months in the year and for the rest we have to depend solely on the rice imported towards quotas allotted from outside. The rice received from outside is mostly raw rice due to non-availability of boiled rice there. We are not also in a position to get it changed and any objection raised in regard to it is likely to cause delay in import and even cancellation of quotas. Hence we are forced to accept the quality available, import and distribute it. This is the reason for selling raw rice in ration shops.

(c) Yes. But last year the raw rice issued as ration was comparatively very small as a major portion of the import was in boiled rice.

Mr. M. O. Thomakutty *(Commerce and Industry):* May I know, Sir, from where did you get the information that the local purchase of paddy is sufficient for nearly 4½ months?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* From the information available from the Revenue Department and Agricultural Department.

Mr. M. O. Thomakutty *(Commerce and Industry):* The pamphlet on Grow More Food Campaign shows that the rice produced in the State would be just sufficient to feed the people of Cochin for about 7½ months. Is that correct?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Various estimates have been made from the very beginning. The estimates seem to have been prepared at the rate of 11 ounces per adult at one time and at another time it was at the rate of 1 kochu nazhi or about 16 ounces per adult. Thus it will be seen that various standards have been adopted. Probably calculation at the lesser rate might have extended the period to 7½ months. The period of 4½ months mentioned in the answer is according to the standard ration, namely one pound per adult.

Mr. M. O. Thomakutty *(Commerce and Industry):* According to the answer furnished it is only 4½ months. But in the report just now mentioned by me it is 7½ months. May I know the reason for this discrepancy?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* That report was prepared at the time when the Standard of ration allowed was about 11 ounces. Subsequently it was raised to 16 ounces, whichis the minimum standard required. Probably the estimate might have been prepared based onthe lesser ration. When we started the ration, it was less.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The two are entirely different. The figure that is given is for consumption in the whole State. This figure does not incldue what is used for the consumption of those persons who have already got stock in their hands. They are agriculturists who own their own paddy. This is the rice available for local purchase. that is, what is left with the agriculturists. What excess there is with them is taken and distributed. That is what is mentioned. This 4½ months relates to the excess that is left with them.

Mr. President: If I understand the Hon'ble Member correctly, the 7½ month's figure represents the total produce in the State and the 4½ months' figure represents the quantity available for purchase.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That is exactly what I mean.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* May I know why imported raw rice is distributed in Chittur?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Some people there wanted raw rice and so some raw rice was sent there. Recently, of course, some raw rice was sent, then as owing to the continued heavy rain that it was not possible to mill the paddy.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* How long has paddy been stored there?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* There was unusual rain this year and there was difficulty in milling. Owing to scarcity of rice in deficit Taluk, we had to transport all available rice to this area.

Mr. M. O. Thomakutty *(Commerce and Industry):* What was the quantity of rice available during the month of Medam?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I cannot give the information off-hand.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* How does the figure in Appendix I compare with the purchase made during the previous year?

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Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: The purchase in 1120 amounted to 28,768 tons of rice, in 1121 up to 22nd July 1946/6th Karkadagam 1121, 29,377 tons of rice. So it is more.

Mr. Paramel Ipe Ipe *(Kunnamkulam)*: Is the distribution of raw rice in Chittur different from other taluks ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: In Chittur there is no distribution of raw rice.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. വി സബ്മാസ്റ്റ്യൻ: ഇപ്പോൾ അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള റേഷൻ മുഴുവനും അരിയായിട്ടുതന്നെ കൊടുക്കുവാനുള്ള ഏർപ്പാട് ചെയ്യാമോ ? പത്തു ഔൺസ്സ് അരി കൊടുക്കുന്നതിൽ രണ്ടു ഔൺസ്സ് ഉമിയും കല്ലുമായിട്ടു നീക്കിയാൽ ബാക്കി എട്ടു ഔൺസ്സ് അരി മാത്രമേയുണ്ടാകുന്നുള്ളൂ. ഈ കാര്യത്തിലും ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു വേണ്ടതു ചെയ്യുവാൻ ദയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: The complaint is that the rice now distributed contains husk. It contains no doubt a little husk, but it is not possible to remove it altogether. We do some sort of cleaning before it is issued. At times owing to the food situation, the imported rice would have to be sent within a period of 24 hours, after its arrival. In such cases it may not be possible for us to do any cleaning.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. വി. സബ്മാസ്റ്റ്യൻ: ഈ സോട്ടുചെയ്തു കൊടുക്കുന്നുവെന്നു പറഞ്ഞ ഫ 0 ഔൺസ്സ് അരിയിൽത്തന്നെ രണ്ടു ഔൺസ്സ് ഉമിയും കല്ലും മറ്റും കൂടിട്ടാണ് ഇപ്പോഴും കൊടുത്തുവരുന്നതെന്നു അനേഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടോ ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Sir, it contains some husk, but it is not possible to remove it entirely.

Mr. P. Sankara Menon *(Trichur-North)*: There is a complaint that the rice contains a lot of husk.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: The complaint is similar to the one raised by the Hon'ble Member Mr. Sebastian. I examined it. It is not possible to remove all the husk. We do some sort of sifting.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ടി. ജേക്കബ്ബ്: നൂ 0 ലക്ഷം പറ നെല്ലിൽനിന്നു എത്ര ടൺ അരിയുണ്ടാകുമെന്നു അറിയാമോ ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Roughly 200 paras will be one ton of rice.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി.ടി. ജേക്കബ്ബ്: ഈ നിലക്കു എത്ര കിട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടു ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: 29,377.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ടി. ജേക്കബ്ബ്. ഇപ്പോൾ നമ്മുടെ നാട്ടിൽ രണ്ടു ലക്ഷത്തി ആറായിരത്തിൽ ചിലപ്പോൾ ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലത്തു കൃഷിചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടു. ഈ കണക്കനുസരിച്ചു കുറഞ്ഞതു ഒരു ലക്ഷം ടൺ അരിയുണ്ടാകണം. അതിൽ ഫൺ, 0 0 0 ൽപിലപ്പോൾ ടൺ അരി മാത്രമേ കിട്ടിട്ടുള്ളൂ. ബാക്കിയുള്ളതു മുഴുവൻ കൃഷി ഉടമസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു കൊടുക്കുകയാണോ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതു ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: We have set apart 10 per cent for seeds, about 15 per cent for wages in kind and something for other customary payments.

Mr. P. T. Jacob *(Latin Christians-Mattancheri)*: May I know what is the percentage that is set apart for customary payments?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: I do not remember the exact percentage. It varies with regard to individuals.

Mr. P. T. Jacob *(Latin Christians-Mattancheri)*: Will it be about 35 per cent?

Rao Sahib M.M.Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: It will be much more than 25 percent.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Sir, the question of the Hon'ble Member is what percentage is allowed for such customary payments taking into consideration what is allowed for his personal consumption will it come to 25 per cent ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: It will be a little more.

Mr. P. T. Jacob *(Latin Christians-Mattancheri)*: Will it come to 30 per cent?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: Yes.

Mr. P. T. Jacb *(Latin Christians-Mattancheri)*: In that case we must at least get 70 thousand tons but we are only getting 29,000 tons.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: May I know, Sir, whether it has struck the Government that if our procurement policy is rigorously enforced, we shall be able to get a good deal more ?

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Mr. President: I may say that experience of other parts of this country and of other countries where a similar system of procurement has been brought into force shows that there has not been a single case in which 50 per cent of the produce has been procured. So I do not think that there is any reason to expect that however much more rigorously our system is enforced, we should get much more. I do not mean to say that our system of procurement is perfect or our 40 per cent is the maximum; but I do not think that we can expect any very large increase in procurement.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, what are these customary payments mentioned by the Food Member?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Some aristocratic families used to pay these barbers, washermen and some others in kind.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, who are these some others?

Mr. President: I suggest that if the Hon'ble Member wishes to have any more detailed information with regard to this, he should give notice of a separate question.

Mr. K. I. Velayudhan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know why raw rice was imported in larger quantities than was done last year?

Mr. President: Order, order. Government cannot and are not in a position to control the quality of rice supplied to them. They are dependent upon quotas alloted by outside authorities.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether the Government will be pleased to equally distribute this imported raw rice amongst all the taluks. Now there is partiality.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It may not be quite possible since in certain taluks there is surplus paddy. In such areas there is no necessity to import raw rice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether the Government is aware that the rice distributed contains, over and above the admitted husk, pebbles and worms also? Things—husk and stones—worms.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Certainly not.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നാരായണമേനോൻ: ജന്മികളും കുടിയാന്മാരും ഉൾപ്പെടെ ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ കൃഷിക്കാരുടെ അകെയുള്ള സംഖ്യ ൻ, ൦൦൦-ൽ പിലപാനമാണെന്ന സെൻസസ്സ് റിപ്പോർട്ടിൽ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചിട്ടിലല്ലേ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I want notice.

Mrs. K. M. R. Menon *(Trichur-Women):* Will the Government be pleased to take steps to destory the large number of rats so that we can save much of foodgrains for distribution among the people. In Germany they are destroying every year rats thereby having an increase of 10 per cent in the quantity of food stuffs.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)* We are trying to destroy them.

Mr. V. R. Krishanan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* May I know whether the Government have made any statement to the effect that the rice we produce will be sufficient to meet our demands only for 4½ months?

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* That is what I have said.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Oorakam):* The Diwan Peishkar in his explanation clarified that the purchased rice lasts for only 4½ months whereas in the publication issued by the Government it is stated that our whole production lasts only for 4½ months. The Diwan Peishkar's clarification is wrong.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prahhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* I simply explained what is contained in the answer.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ശങ്കരമേനോൻ: അയൽരാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ എത്ര ശതമാനംവീതം നെല്ല് പിരിച്ചെടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടെന്നറിയാമോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The exact proportion I do not know.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ടി. ജേക്കബ്: Will it be 20 per cent? മുതലാളിമാർ—അതായത്—ഈ കൃഷി ചെയ്യുന്ന ആളുകൾക്ക് ൨൦ ശതമാനമെങ്കിലും കൊടുക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I cannot say.

Mr. P. T. Jacob *(Latin Christians-Mattancheri):* Can you not ascertain it?

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APPENDIX I

(See answer to question No. 145)

Paddy purchased in each month of 1121

		P.	E.	N.
Chingam	..	459278	6	7
Kanni	..	1126557	6	4
Thulam	..	802025	5	1
Vrischigam	..	377742	3	14
Dhanu	..	306519	5	3
Makaram	..	925567	9	8
Kumbham	..	970177	3	8
Meenam	..	203343	1	1
Medam	..	404933	5	13
Edavam	..	245602	2	13
Mithunam	..	50208	3	4
Grand total up to 31st Mithunam 1121	..	5871956	2	12

APPENDIX II

(See answer to question No 146)

ശമ്പളം ക.	ആകെ എണ്ണം	പേരു്	ഉദ്യോഗപ്പേരു്	തുടച്ചയായുള്ള സേവനകാലം മിഥുനം മാസം		
	൧	പി. ശങ്കരൻ	Attender	൨ ൦	൧ ൧	൧൩
	൨	പി. എ പീറ്റർ	,,	൧൯	൭	൨ ൧
	൩	കെ. പി. ആൽഫ്രഡ്	,,	൧ ൦	൫	൩
	൪	എ. ടി. നാരായണശർമ്മ	,,	൭	൯	൨ ൩
	൫	എൻ. പി. വക്കോ	,,	൧ ൦	൧ ൧	൧ ൪
	൬	പി. എ. ജോസഫ്	,,	൧ ൩	൧ ൦	൩
	൭	എം. പി. ജൗസേപ്പ്	,,	൧ ൦	൧ ൧	൧ ൫
	൮	വി. കുഞ്ഞു	,,	൨ ൦	൧ ൧	൨ ൦
	൯	കെ. എസ്സ്. ജനാർദ്ദനൻ	,,	൧ ൧	൧ ൦	൧ ൫
൧ ൫	൧ ൦	വി. കെ. ഭാസ്കരൻ	,,	൪	൦	൦
	൧ ൧	പി. വി. ജോസഫ്	,,	൧ ൨	൭	൧ ൭
	൧ ൨	കെ. കുഞ്ഞുണ്ണി	,,	൨ ൦	൧ ൧	൧ ൪
	൧൩	കെ. ജി. റാഫേൽ	,,	൨ ൦	൧ ൧	൧ ൪
	൧ ൪	വി. ഗോപാലൻ	,,	൨	൪	൨ ൪
	൧ ൫	ടി. ദിവാകരപ്പണിക്കർ	,,	൧ ൦	൭	൨ ൩
	൧ ൬	ടി. കെ. പത്മനാഭൻ	Assistant Mechanic	൯	൧ ൦	൦
	൧ ൭	കെ. പി. ലോനൻ	Deffadar	൨ ൫	൫	൨ ൨
	൧൮	കെ. ടി. ജോസഫ്	Head Gardener	൫	൧ ൦	൦
	൧	അഗസ്റ്റിൻ റോക്കി	Servant to the Physical Director	൧ ൦	൫	൯
		എം. എൻ. കൃഷ്ണൻ	Boatman	൧	൪	൫

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